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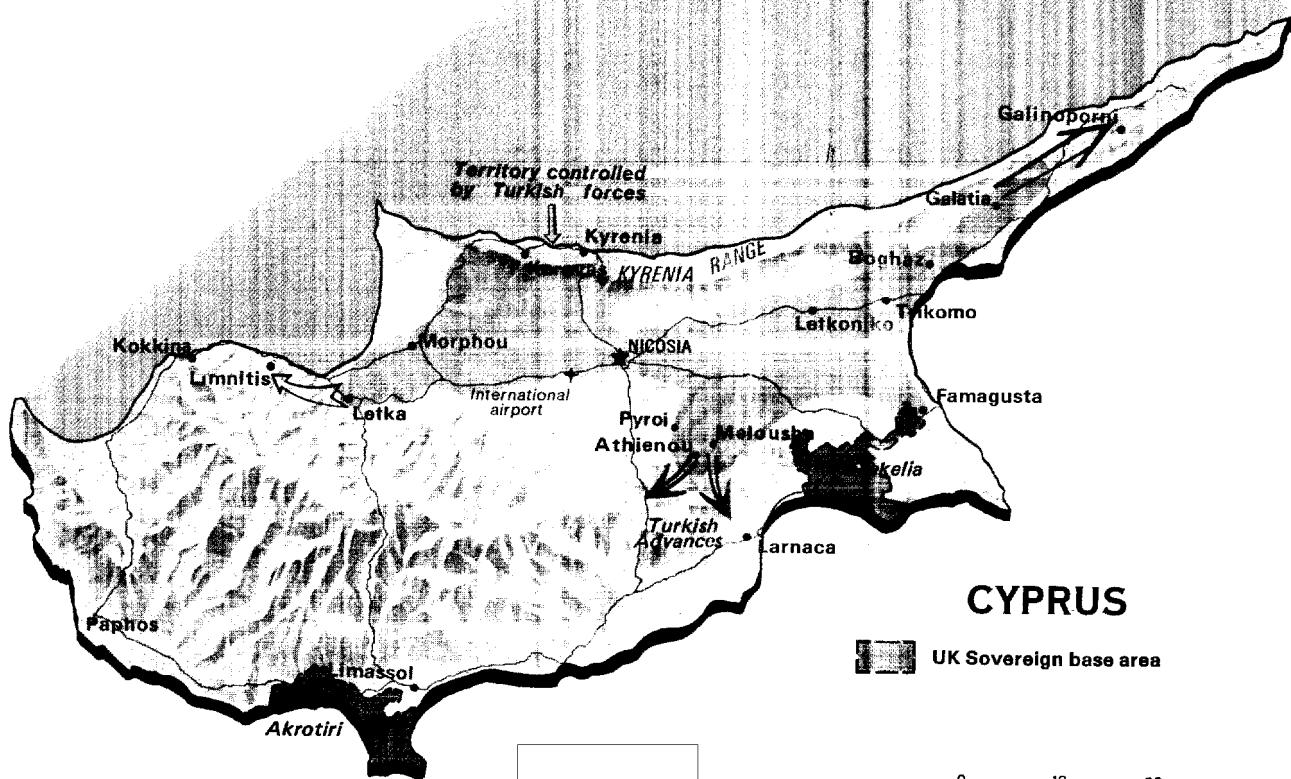
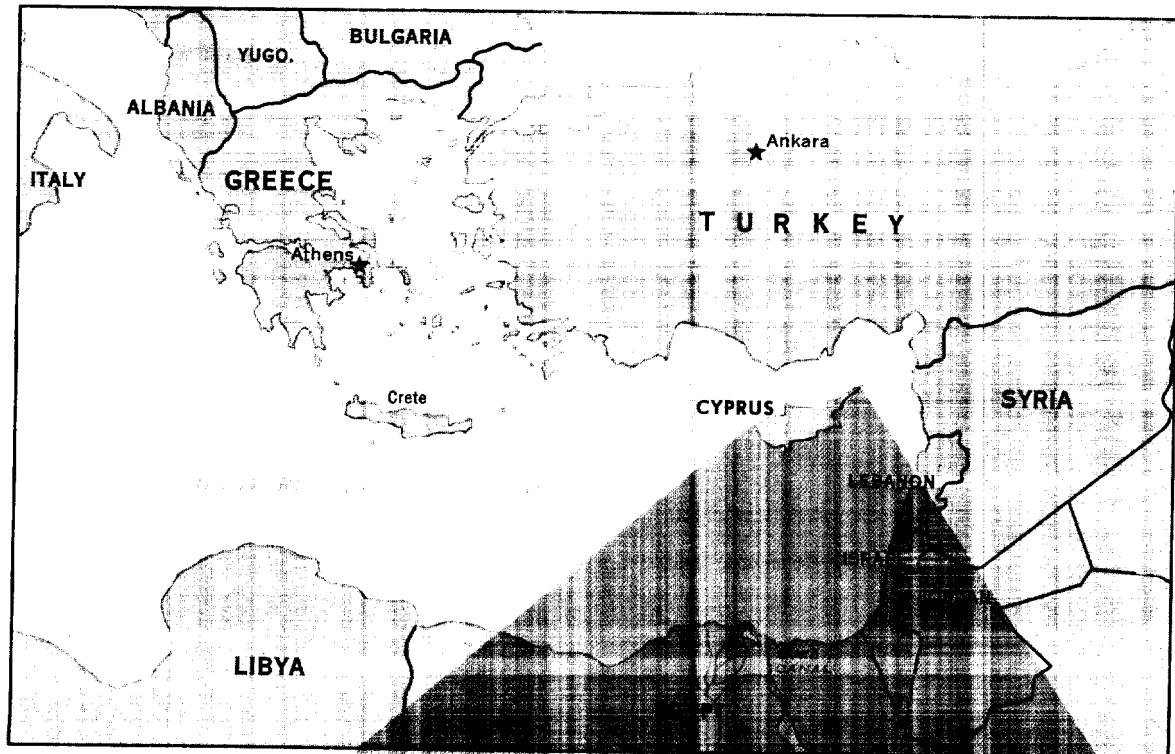
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GREECE-TURKEY-CYPRUS

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Turkish forces continued to expand their holdings on Cyprus over the weekend. Advances beyond the territory the Turks have demanded for an autonomous Turkish Cypriot area are probably intended to force the Greeks to the negotiating table.

Yesterday, fighting continued southeast of Nicosia as the Turks advanced to within eight miles of the port city of Larnaca. Turkish units also threatened to cut the road between Nicosia and Limassol--the last major route south from the capital city.

In other areas of the island, Turkish army and Cypriot forces continued operations on the Karpas peninsula, reaching Galinoporni over the weekend. In the west, fighting continued near Kokkina, and Greek National Guard units maintained pressure on Turkish enclaves in the area. The cease-fire continued to be observed in Nicosia, and UN forces remained in control of the international airport.

UN representative Weckman has suggested to the US ambassador that it might now be more realistic to drop the concept of another Geneva meeting of the guarantor

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powers, and encourage negotiations in Nicosia between Clerides and Turkish Cypriot leader Denktash. In such an arrangement the Turkish side might also include military and diplomatic representatives from Ankara.

The US embassy in Nicosia comments that at a minimum Clerides must be given some kind of authorization from Athens and be assured that he will not be branded a traitor when the outcome of the talks buries once and for all the idea of enosis.

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Developments in Greece

The Greek decision to withdraw from the NATO integrated military command is firm, according to Defense Minister Averoff, who said he was reporting the view of Prime Minister Karamanlis. Averoff told the US ambassador that his government recognized the complexities of the disengagement process and would proceed slowly. He said he would issue a clarifying statement today that would indicate "certain technical arrangements" would not be touched. According to the US embassy his implication was that bilateral arrangements with the US would be respected.

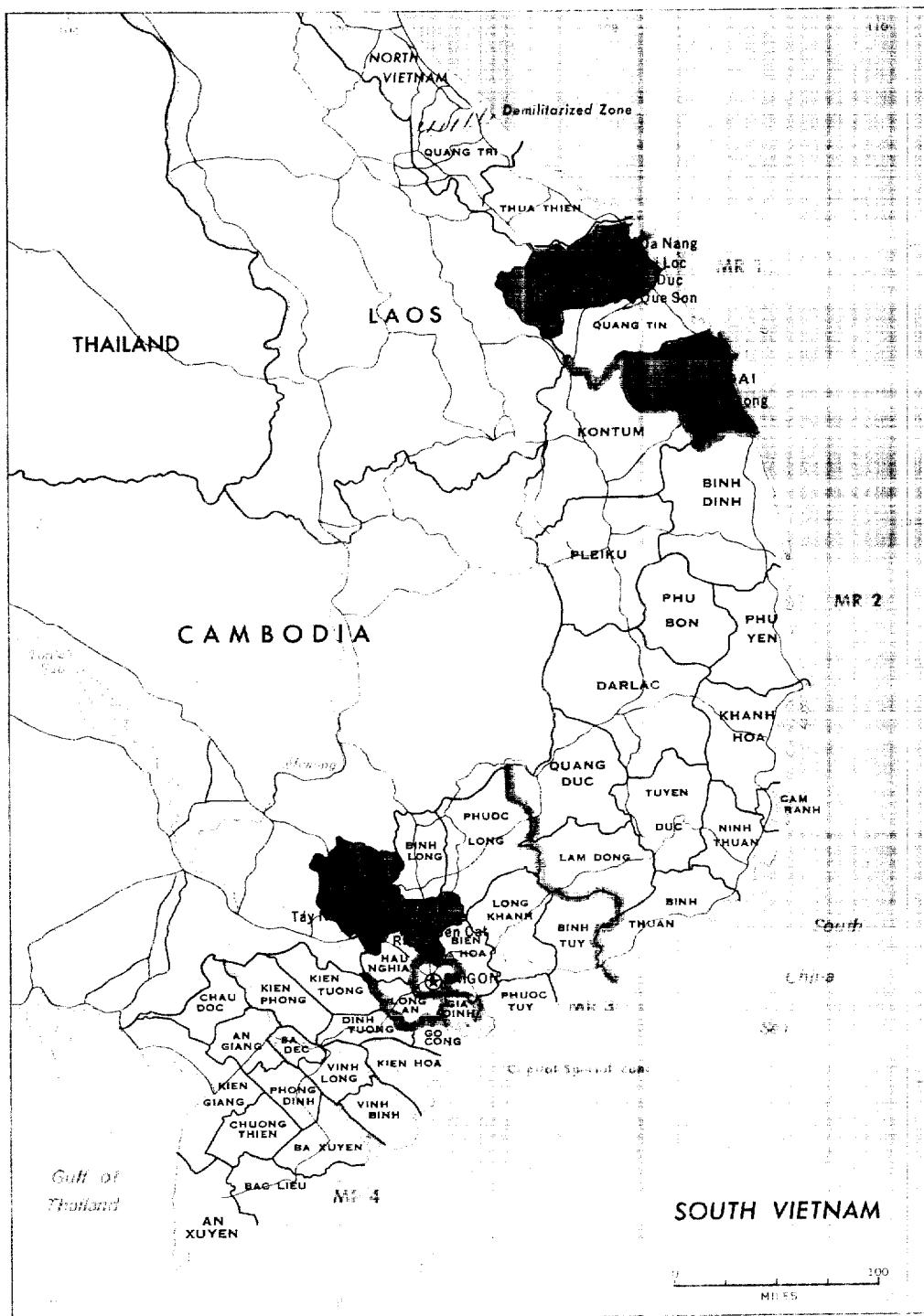
Averoff told the ambassador that the NATO pull-out was necessary to relieve the deep sense of humiliation brought on by the events on Cyprus. He said the move had been extremely popular throughout the country and that it had markedly strengthened Karamanlis' position.

Greek authorities have eased the ban on air traffic to and from US air bases in the country. US military aircraft may now operate into and out of Athens airport from the west with a minimum of six hours notice.

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Meanwhile, anti-US demonstrations have continued in many parts of the country. In the first major clash between police and demonstrators since Karamanlis took power, at least six people were injured in an attempted march on the US embassy in downtown Athens. Demonstrations also took place on Crete on Saturday and Sunday, but there were apparently no major threats to the US base at Iraklion.

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SOUTH VIETNAM

Sharp fighting continues in the northern provinces and in areas near Saigon.

On August 17, the district town of Minh Long in Quang Ngai Province fell after heavy ground and artillery attacks by Communist forces. It is the second district town in the northern provinces overrun this month.

In nearby Quang Nam Province, the Communists are maintaining heavy pressure on three district towns south and southwest of Da Nang. Communist gunners on August 17 fired a salvo of rockets at the air base near Da Nang, damaging one aircraft and causing numerous civilian casualties. The northern provinces will probably remain the scene of heavy fighting as the Communists push to increase their territorial holdings.

Closer to Saigon, government forces have fended off tank-supported Communist attacks near the Cambodian border southwest of Tay Ninh City and along Route 13 in the Ben Cat area of Binh Duong Province.

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KOREA-JAPAN

South Korean authorities claim that assailant Mun Se-kwang broke under interrogation and revealed that his effort to kill President Pak was ordered by North Korean President Kim Il-song.

The official South Korean version of the assassination plot is that Mun, an anti-Pak activist among Koreans resident in Japan, was recruited for his mission in September 1972 by Kim Ho-ryong, leader of an Osaka chapter of Chosen Soren, the pro-Pyongyang umbrella organization of Koreans in Japan, and by an unidentified North Korean whom Mun met on a North Korean vessel docked in Osaka. Mun was told by his mentors that Kim Il-song had ordered the assassination.

In November 1973, according to the South Korean account, Mun was instructed to kill Pak on March 1, 1974, but the date of the attack was subsequently postponed. In May 1974, Mun received orders to kill Pak on August 15, the date of the actual attempt.

Information so far provided by Japanese police officials tends to support the broad outlines of the South Korean version of a conspiracy against Pak. Presumably, any confirmation of the Kim Il-song angle must come from Kim Ho-ryong, the third principal in the alleged conspiracy. Chosen Soren officials in Osaka have confirmed membership of a man with that name, but deny that he had anything to do with the events of August 15. According to press accounts, Kim has been missing from his home in Osaka since August 16. The Japanese police have pledged their best efforts to locate the suspect.

The Mun Se-kwang case obviously has important political ramifications, whether or not Seoul's version of the matter is true in every respect. At the moment, three problem areas stand out:

--The North-South political dialogue, or what remains of it, seems headed for the deep freeze.

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--Assassin Mun appears to provide a clear-cut link between anti-Pak activists in Japan, whatever their political complexion, and the North Korean political apparatus there. Thus, Seoul will be encouraged in its persistent effort to brand all opponents of Pak as tools or dupes of Pyongyang.

--There is the obvious potential for worsening of the already tense South Korean relationship with Tokyo. The South Koreans, for example, will be pressing for tougher Japanese policing of leftist elements among the 600,000 Koreans resident in Japan. This may be difficult for Tokyo to do in the context of its own police and judicial system. The Japanese, with their long-standing prejudices against Koreans, will be upset by such events as the scuffles in Tokyo on Friday and Saturday between Korean leftists and pro-Pak groups out to avenge their leader. The prevailing response in Japan to such events will be to condemn both sides.

In recognition of the dangers inherent in the situation, Prime Minister Tanaka will attend Mrs. Pak's funeral in Seoul today and will confer privately with President Pak afterward. Indeed, the rush of events may have provided both leaders with a useful opportunity to make something of a fresh start in the troubled bilateral relationship.

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THAILAND

The attempt to fashion a constitutional government is still on course, but behind schedule.

In the tumultuous days following the collapse of the Thamom-Praphat military regime last October, there were expectations that a new constitution would be promulgated and elections held within about six months. The draft constitution is still under study in the National Assembly, however, and the process is not likely to be completed for at least another month. The draft constitution calls for national elections within 90 days of its promulgation.

If there are no further hitches, the process will conclude early in 1975 with the seating of Thailand's first elected civilian government since 1946.

The Thai did elect a government in 1957, but that election was no more than an attempt by the military regime to legitimize its de facto control. Unlike the election in 1957, there will be no military officers running for political office this time, although one senior officer--Air Marshal Thawi--may throw his hat into the ring when he retires from service in October. One of the more unusual features of present-day Thai political life has been the military's reluctance to continue to mix soldiering with politics.

The improved performance of civilian Prime Minister Sanya Thammasak in recent months also has dampened speculation in Bangkok about the "inevitability" of a return to military rule. His tough handling of a recent civil disturbance, for example, diminished the concern of many army officers that civilian rule means weak leadership and political instability. Sanya's increasingly aggressive style of leadership results partly from his realization that, despite its caretaker status, the public wants the government to start tackling some of Thailand's tougher problems, such as land reform and relations with the US.

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The civilian government's demonstrated responsiveness to public opinion, coupled with Sanya's acceptance of the National Assembly as an important element in the political process, has helped establish a pattern of political behavior that is likely to ease the country's transition toward representative government. Sanya, despite his reluctance to serve again, will be the favorite of many to lead Thailand's latest experiment in representative government.

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ETHIOPIA

The politically dominant Armed Forces Coordinating Committee staged a show of force Friday to demonstrate continued backing for Emperor Haile Selassie and Prime Minister Mikael.

Troops in armored cars and tanks paraded through the streets of Addis Ababa and air force planes flew over the city in formation.

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The increased unity displayed by the Armed Forces Coordinating Committee in recent days may be tested by the arrest on Saturday of the commander of the Imperial Bodyguard, the unit responsible for the Emperor's personal safety. Representatives of the bodyguard on the committee who had previously resisted actions aimed directly at the Emperor apparently supported the committee's dissolution last week of all of Haile Selassie's instruments of power.

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USSR

The Soviets brought down Cosmos 672 early yesterday morning after six days in orbit. The spacecraft, an unmanned Soyuz, was launched to test modifications made for the Apollo-Soyuz mission next July.

Cosmos 672 is the second unmanned Soyuz flown by the Soviets in preparation for the joint mission. The first, Cosmos 638, was launched in April and was in orbit for ten days.

The Soviets are expected to conduct two to three manned Soyuz missions between now and July that are related to the Apollo-Soyuz test. Many members of the Soyuz back-up crews for the joint mission have no prior experience in space, and the Soviets probably will attempt to orbit several of these crews in the coming months to acquaint them with the rigors of space flight.

Preparations are continuing for a manned space flight probably in the next week or so. It is not certain whether the mission will be related to the Apollo-Soyuz test or will send another crew of cosmonauts to man the Salyut 3 space station.

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FOR THE RECORD

Libya-Egypt: Libyan President Qadhafi returned home Sunday after holding a day of reconciliation talks with President Sadat in Alexandria, according to press reports. A Tripoli spokesman said the visit was in response to an invitation from the Egyptian President and the result of mediation efforts by President Sheikh Zayid of the United Arab Emirates. Sadat had previously been inclined to avoid a dialogue with Qadhafi. Details of the talks are not known, but an Egyptian spokesman has announced that the two countries agreed to mute their acrimonious press war.

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Yugoslavia-Greece: Yugoslav Foreign Minister Minic was in Athens on Saturday to deliver a personal message from President Tito to Greek President Gizikis and Prime Minister Karamanlis. Minic said the message deals with the Cyprus situation. Minic is going to Ankara today on a similar visit.

USSR-China: Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Ilichev, the head of the USSR's delegation to the border talks in Peking, returned to Moscow yesterday. Soviet officials have said during the past month that the border talks, which have been going on for more than four years, had not progressed since Ilichev went to Peking in June. Moscow says his return home is "temporary" and for "official business." This is consistent with past Soviet efforts to portray their attitude toward the talks as constructive.

Portugal-Mozambique: Portuguese Foreign Minister Soares has returned to Lisbon after two days of secret talks in Dar es Salaam with officials of the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique, according to press reports. A senior Tanzanian Foreign Ministry official told the US embassy that the two sides had at least preliminary discussions on the establishment of a provisional government in Mozambique.

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